



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #3 - December 11, 2001

Last Regional Homeland Security Meeting Set for December 13, Kirksville

The last regional security meeting with Missouri's Homeland Security Advisor Tim Daniel has been reset for 9 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 13 at Truman State University Violette Hall (Bldg 15), Room 1000, 301 E. Patterson, Kirksville. The meeting will focus on the terrorist threat, gain a perspective on statewide and local readiness, and to propose improvements to emergency response. Emergency Management Directors, Mayors, Presiding Commissioners, Health, Fire and Law Enforcement personnel have attended the regional meetings.

Missouri Security Panel Committee Assignments

Comments from the Regional meetings are being forwarded to the Missouri Homeland Security Panel subcommittees to be incorporated into the final report to the Governor. The subcommittees for the Missouri Regional Security Panel include: Medical, Health & Environment Committee; Public Aware & Public Private Partnerships; Utilities; Government Facilities; Transportation, Critical Technology; and **First Responders**.

The three co-chairs for the First Responders Committee are Kansas City Police Chief Richard Easley, St. Louis Fire Chief Sherman George, Missouri Task Force 1 (Boone County Fire Protection District) Chief Doug Westhoff. This committee is seeking input from First Responders (Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Emergency Management) on strategic planning, capabilities, training and equipment issues. SEMA Director Jerry B. Uhlmann sits on this committee and would welcome any comments to bring to committee meetings. The First Responder committee has several working groups emergency management directors involved appointed include: Cape Girardeau County EMD **David Hitt**, Cole County/Jefferson City EMD **Susan Green** and Marion County/Hannibal EMD **John Hark**.

The Missouri Security Panel will make a formal report to Governor Holden and the General Assembly on January 25th.

SEMA Offers 8 Terrorism /WMD Courses Beginning in January

SEMA's Training Section will offer eight terrorism/WMD courses beginning in January through August, 2002. The classes will be offered at the SEOC in Jefferson City and regionally. Please call Susan Rhodes in the training section (573-526-9121) to apply for one of the following WMD classes.

Senior Officials Workshop(Weapons of Mass Destruction) is an introduction to strategic and operational issues regarding weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incidents for appointed and elected senior officials. It will be offered January 16, 2002 at the SEOC.

Weapons of Mass Destruction: Threat & Risk Assessment-Jurisdiction prior to the start of the class, a self-assessment instrument will be provided to participants. They will have four weeks to complete the instrument and return it to NERRTC. Relevant information will then be incorporated into the course content. It will be offered January 23-24 in Springfield, March 6-7 in St. Charles and April 24-25 in Kirksville.

Medical Considerations for a WMD Event focuses on medical planning requirements for response to a WMD event with chemical and biological agents. It will be offered February 5-6 in Springfield, May

9-10 in Kansas City, and August 1-2 in St. Louis.

Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts - Train the Trainer addresses the special needs of instructors who will be delivering the Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts Course. It will be offered February 13-15 and June 25-27 at the SEOC.

Law Enforcement Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents is an awareness level course designed to prepare federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel to perform safely and effectively during incidents involving WMD. It will be offered April 23-24 at the SEOC.

Public Works: Preparing for and Responding to Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction focuses on enhancing the capabilities of public works leadership to respond to and manage a weapons of mass destruction (WMD) terrorism incident. It will be offered April 30 - May 2 in Kansas City and August 6-8 at the SEOC.

Legal Aspects of WMD Events legal implications of a WMD event are often ignored due to rush to conduct response efforts directed at casualty care and lifesaving. This is a course designed for senior local and state government leaders as well as Attorney's General. It will be offered May 2 at the SEOC.

BNICE: Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical and Explosives provides detailed information on chemical, nuclear, biological, incendiary and explosive devices. This is a technical course for non-technical personnel. It will be offered June 4-5 and July 23-24 at the SEOC.

SEMA Posts School Violence Planning Guidelines on Internet

SEMA's School Violence Planning Guidance/Sample Plan is available on SEMA's web site. Please click on the SEMA Directory in the blue sidebar. Then Click on the NTHP (Planning Branch), scroll down to and click on Missouri All-Hazard Planning Guidance. The school plan is in bold. It may be downloaded in a PDF format from the Internet.

SEMA's Communications Conference Set for January 25-26!

The Communications and Technology Conference will focus on radio system operability, cyber security, hazardous material preparedness for dispatchers, WMD agents and detection technology, 911, NOAA Weather Radio and EAS, frequency coordination and an overview of the Missouri National Guard's Civil Support Team. The conference will be held at the Holiday inn Sunspree, Lake Ozark. Space is limited. For more information call Cathy Zumwalt at 573-526-9146.

Heads UP! NWS & Locally Originated Warning Messages

The National Weather Service is proposing an agreement which would allow emergency managers to originate local warning messages for "transmission over the NOAA Weather Radio and NOAA Weather Wire Service systems." This agreement identifies some of the messages that could be broadcast such as: Localized evacuations caused by an HAZMAT incident or Terrorist activity that threatens a significant portion of the population. Jim Kramper NWS St Louis Office Warning Coordination Meteorologist said he may mention this agreement in his presentation at the Communications Conference in January.

Tom Mohr Named SEMA's Terrorism Specialist

Former Area Coordinator for Northwest Missouri, Tom Mohr, has been promoted to Public Safety Manager I for Homeland Security and Domestic Terrorism in SEMA. Tom will be responsible for Homeland Security and Terrorism/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) related issues within the state of Missouri. This includes the development, submission, and execution of federal grant programs; budget development; training and exercises; and evaluation of equipment. He will work closely with the Governor's staff, and coordinate with all other federal and state and local agencies having a response requirement to terrorism/WMD events. In addition, he will work in the State

Emergency Operations Center during exercises and/or actual events.

Communications Operation Secure Radio Update

Questions have been raised about why the High Frequency Single Sideband net known as Operation SECURE was not activated in the wake of the events of 11 September.

FCC Regulations, specifically, 90.264 restrict use of the network to specific circumstances. They are: (1) To provide communications circuits in emergency and/or disaster situations, where safety of life and property are concerned; and (2) To provide standby and/or backup communications circuits to regular domestic communications circuits which have been disrupted by disasters and/or emergencies.

FCC Regulations further restrict use of these frequencies during drills and exercised to a cumulative total of 420 minutes a week. Further, these frequencies are shared among the many states that participate in the program and are capable of communicating nationwide. Unnecessary operations here may potentially cause unwanted interference to emergency operations in states substantial distances away.

Despite these restrictions, we feel strongly that the network provides a valuable asset to the citizens of Missouri during times when normal communications are disrupted. Of the 27 stations licensed in Missouri, only a faithful few routinely participate in the weekly system test. If technical difficulties are preventing you from participating in the weekly test perhaps we can help. If technical assistance is needed, or if you have any questions concerning the Operations Secure net, please contact the SEMA Communications Officer at 573-526-9201.

Increased Security Awareness Information Update

The Director of Homeland Security issued a heightened state of alert warning to the public on December 3, 2001. This was in response to the identification of a potential credible threat existing to interests of the United States, including those on American soil, for the period of December 5, 2001 to December 15, 2001.

We are unable to define a location, nature of the target or type of attack, but reports from the intelligence community suggest something may be planned and also raises the possibility that more than one attack may take place. There is evidence that terrorists continue to retain some capability to strike within the borders of the United States.

We must take all appropriate steps to protect ourselves, our employees, and our property. All employees need to remain alert. Suspicious activity should be reported to facility security personnel. An immediate assessment should be made to determine if the threat warrants notification of local and Federal law enforcement agencies or activation of emergency plans.

Additional personal protective measures are suggested:

- * Be observant of your surroundings
- * Secure your personal property at work or at home
- * Report suspicious behavior or activity to security or law enforcement
- * Keep emergency phone numbers accessible
- * Plan alternate routes to and from work and home and consider varying your routes on a daily basis